

SECRET INVASIONTM

MARVEL

33

GAGE
CHEN
FLOREA
RAMOS

WAR MACHINE

WEAPON OF S.H.I.E.L.D.
DIRECTOR OF S.H.I.E.L.D.



THE SAVAGE LAND.

ADAGGH!

TONY!

WAR MACHINE WEAPON OF S.H.I.E.L.D. PART 1

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JAMES RHODES,
A.K.A. WAR MACHINE.
COMMANDER/SENIOR FACULTY.

HANK! WE'VE
GOT A TOTAL
SYSTEMS
CRASH--

HENRY PYM, A.K.A.
YELLOWJACKET.
COMMANDER/SENIOR FACULTY.

IT'S
SOME KIND OF
ATTACK. AND NOT
JUST HERE.

WAIT.
YOUR ARMOR'S
STILL WORKING?
DIDN'T TONY
DESIGN IT?

YEAH, I
DON'T--

JIM.

THIS MESSAGE WAS ACTIVATED
BY A GLOBAL STARKTECH
FAILURE. IF YOU'RE SEEING IT, IT
PROBABLY MEANS I'M DEAD.

MY VOICE IS
FED DIRECTLY INTO
YOUR EARDRUM.
ONLY YOU CAN
HEAR ME. TRUST
NO ONE, JIM.

WE'RE FACING
AN OMEGA LEVEL
THREAT. YOU COULD
BE EARTH'S ONLY
HOPE. WHATEVER YOU'RE
DOING, NO MATTER
HOW IMPORTANT, YOU
HAVE TO DROP IT--

--AND FOLLOW
THIS BEACON. DON'T
TELL ANYONE, JUST
DO IT. YOU'LL KNOW
WHEN YOU GET THERE.

SORRY TO
BURDEN YOU WITH
THIS, JIM. BUT YOU'RE
THE ONLY ONE I
TRUST. GODSPEED.
AND RHODEY...

BEACON DETECTED.
COURSE LOCKED.

...AVENGE
ME.

IS
THAT TONY?
IS HE ALL
RIGHT?

DAMN
IT, RHODEY,
TELL ME WHAT
HE SAID!



When billionaire industrialist Tony Stark dons sophisticated steel-mesh armor of his own design, he becomes a living high-tech weapon – the world's greatest human fighting machine.

THE INVINCIBLE IRON MAN



James “Rhodey” Rhodes has been many things—a Marine, a pilot, and Tony Stark’s best friend. When alcoholism made it impossible for Tony to carry on as Iron Man, Rhodey donned the armor himself. After Tony’s recovery, he built Rhodey his own suit—one with the power of an entire army in the hands of one man!

WAR MACHINE

SECRET INVASION

For months, the shape-shifting aliens known as the Skrulls have replaced key figures in the human and superhuman communities. After sowing the seeds of fear and paranoia, the Skrulls are ready to strike and claim Earth for themselves. They lure the Avengers to the prehistoric Savage Land...and strike Iron Man with an alien virus that disables not only his armor, but every piece of technology designed by Stark throughout the world!

Meanwhile, Rhodey has been training the super heroes of tomorrow along with Hank Pym, a.k.a. Yellowjacket (who has secretly been replaced by a Skrull), at The Initiative’s Camp Hammond in Stamford, Connecticut. Rhodey is about to find out that Tony plans for every eventuality...and that every war needs a War Machine.

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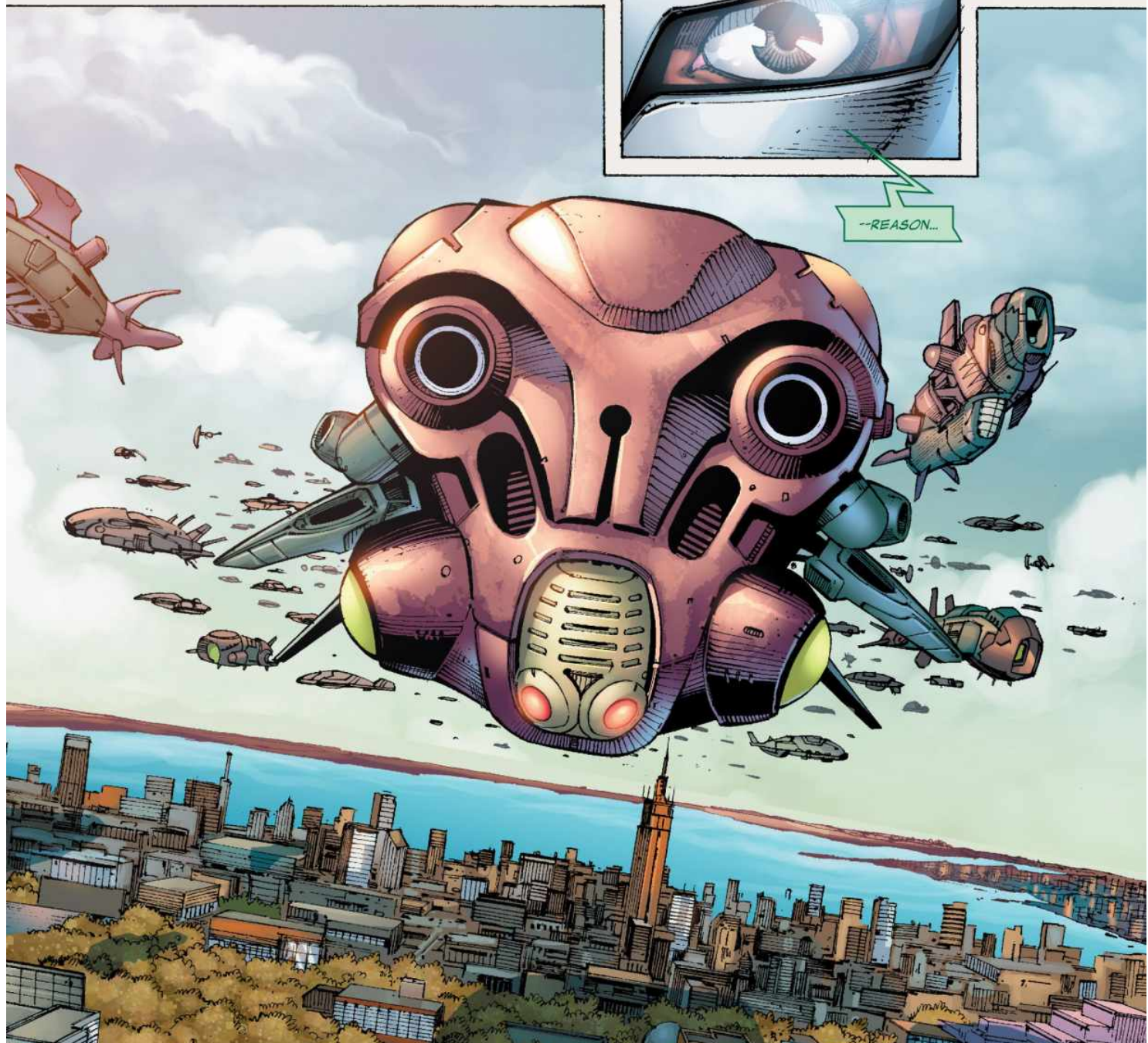


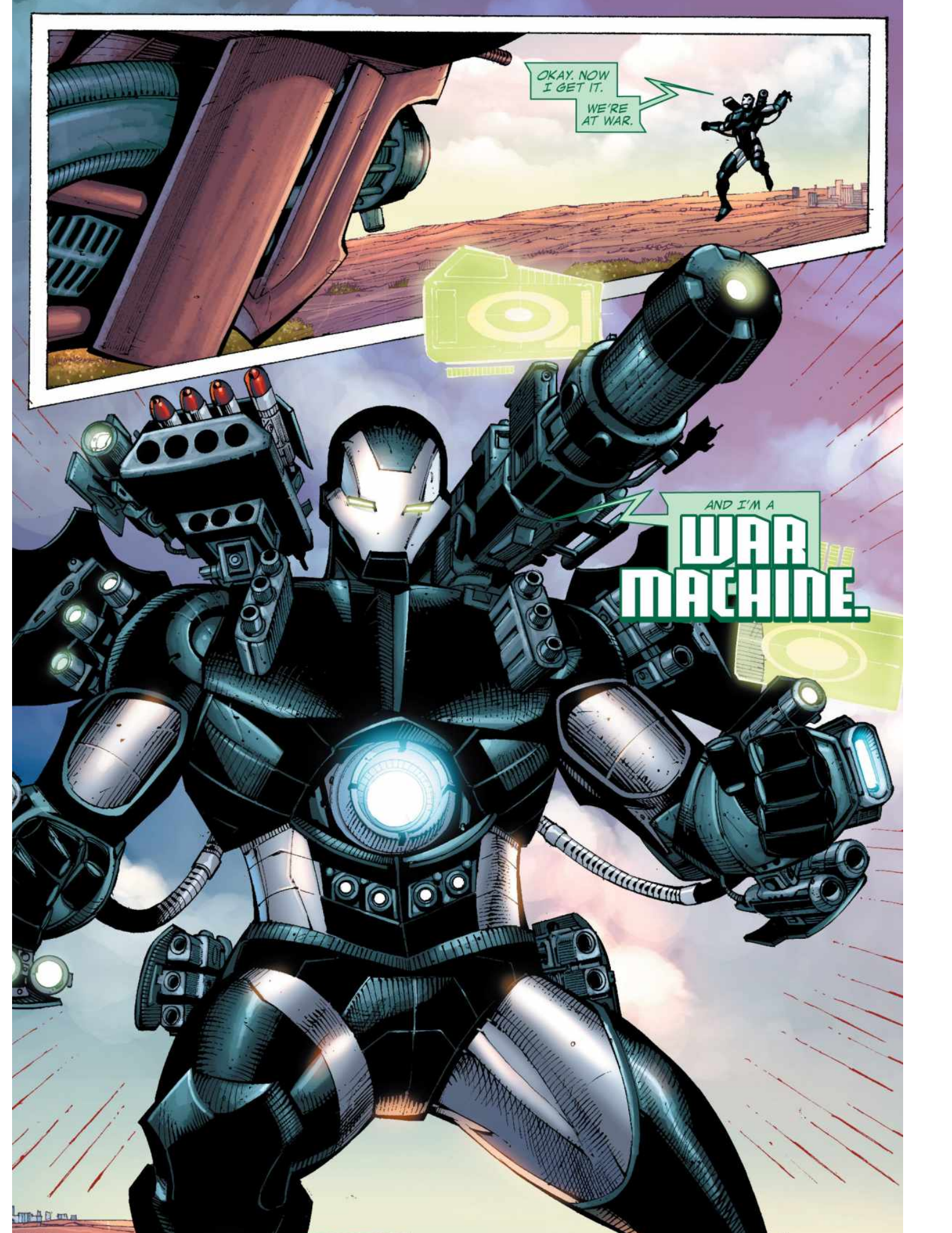
DAMN IT, TONY.
THOSE ARE MY
STUDENTS I JUST
TURNED MY BACK ON.
MY FRIENDS.

YOU'D
BETTER HAVE
ONE HELL OF
A GOOD--



--REASON...





OKAY, NOW
I GET IT.

WE'RE
AT WAR.

AND I'M A
**WAR
MACHINE.**







OKAY, BIG MAN.
LET'S SEE
HOW WELL YOU
BREATHE IN SPACE.

HNH!

PRETTY...
WELL.

THRUUUUU

COME ON,
COMPUTER.
GIVE ME SOME
IDEA WHAT I'M
FIGHTING...

ENERGY SIGNATURE
ANALYSIS:
NOVA
DRAX
MOONDRAGON
COMET MAN

LOOKS LIKE
THE SKRULLS
HAVE UPGRADED.

THAT'S
OKAY. SO
HAVE I.



GUESS HE FIGURED
OUT MY ARMOR
SHIELDS ME FROM
MENTAL ATTACKS.

DON'T KNOW
MUCH ABOUT COMET
MAN. MAYBE I COULD
HANDLE THOSE BLASTS...



...BUT I'D
RATHER NOT
FIND OUT.



WARNING.
SHIELDS
AT 24%.

GOD, HIS
STRENGTH--!

ONCE MY
SHIELDS GO,
HE'LL CRACK
ME OPEN LIKE
A LOBSTER.



CAN'T...
BREAK
FREE...

SHIELDS
AT 13%.

I COULD SELF-
DESTRUCT...AT LEAST
TAKE HIM WITH ME. I
SHOULD'VE DIED A DOZEN
TIMES OVER...HELL, PART
OF ME DID WHEN--



SHIELDS
AT 8%.

NO! ENOUGH OF THAT,
MARINE. YOU'VE GOT
A JOB TO DO. I DIDN'T
HEAR ANYONE GIVE YOU
PERMISSION TO DIE.

I'VE SPENT HALF MY
LIFE IN HIGH-SPEED AERIAL
COMBAT. NO WAY SOME
SPACE LIZARD WITH A BUNCH
OF CUT-AND-PASTE POWERS
OUTMANEUVERS ME.



SHIELDS
AT 3%.

GET IN
THEIR HEADS.
THE SKRULLS
MAY BE ALIENS,
BUT THEY'RE
STILL WARRIORS.

BETWEEN THE
SERVICE, THE
AVENGERS, AND THE
INITIATIVE, I KNOW
A THING OR TWO
ABOUT TACTICS.



SHIELDS
DOWN.

A MILITARY
FORCE RELIES
ON ITS SHOCK
TROOPS...



...BUT
SUPPORT...



BIG TALK, RHODES.
I FEEL LIKE TEN MILES
OF BAD ROAD.

IF ANY MORE
OF THOSE THINGS
COME AFTER ME
BEFORE I REPAIR AND
RECHARGE, IT'S
GONNA GET UGLY.

SMART MONEY SAYS TURN
AROUND, HEAD BACK TO
CAMP. BUT MY DRILL INSTRUCTOR
ALWAYS SAID I WAS MORE
STUBBORN THAN SMART.



DESTINATION
REACHED.

OKAY.

THIS IS NOT
SOMETHING TONY
CAME UP WITH
ON THE FLY.



PRIORITIZE.
GOTTA PLUG IN
ASAP OR--

JIM? JIM
RHODES?



SUZI ENDO?
WHAT ARE YOU
DOING HERE?

THE SAME
AS YOU, I'D
IMAGINE. I GOT A
MESSAGE FROM TONY
IMPLYING THE WORLD
WAS COMING TO AN END,
AND ASKING ME TO
BOARD A SHUTTLE I
DIDN'T KNOW
EXISTED.

HE CALLED
IN FORCE
WORKS? GOOD.
WE CAN USE
THE TEAM TO--

NO, I THINK YOU AND I
ARE THE ONLY ONES.
ME FOR MY EXPERTISE
IN CYBERNETICS, AND
YOU BECAUSE--WELL,
BECAUSE YOU'RE THE
ONLY ONE HE
TRUSTS.

THERE'S A MESSAGE
FOR YOU. I CAN'T
ACCESS IT. HERE,
I'LL SHOW
YOU.

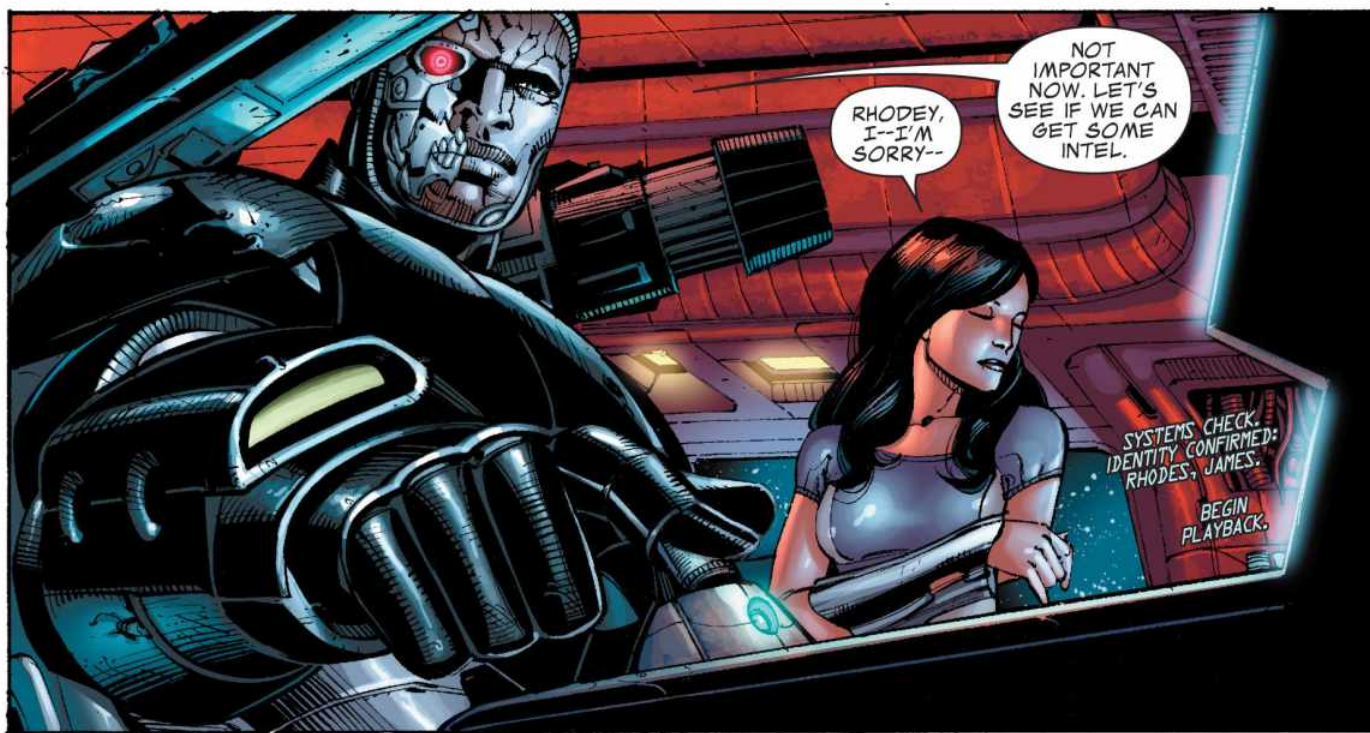
AS LONG AS
THERE'S SOMEWHERE
I CAN RECHARGE. IT'S
GETTING HARD TO
BREATHE.

YOU
CAN PLUG
IN RIGHT--

--MY
GOD!

RHODEY,
WHAT--WHAT
HAPPENED
TO YOU?

COST
OF WAR.



RHODEY,
I--I'M
SORRY--

NOT
IMPORTANT
NOW. LET'S
SEE IF WE CAN
GET SOME
INTEL.

SYSTEMS CHECK:
IDENTITY CONFIRMED:
RHODES, JAMES.

BEGIN
PLAYBACK.



JIM. THANK YOU FOR
COMING. THANK YOU
FOR TRUSTING ME...AND
FOR BEING ONE OF
THE VERY FEW I
CAN TRUST.

I HAD THIS SATELLITE
CONSTRUCTED WHEN I
BECAME DIRECTOR OF
S.H.I.E.L.D. NO ONE KNOWS
ABOUT IT. IT'S CLOAKED.
COMPLETELY OFF
THE BOOKS.

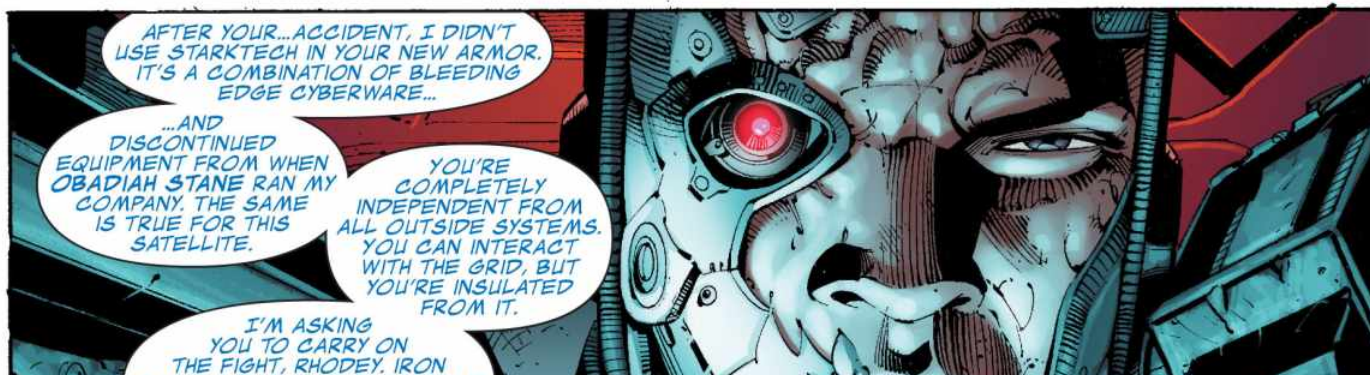
IT'S MY
JOB TO PLAN
FOR ALL POSSIBILITIES.
AND IF YOU'RE HEARING
THIS, ONE OF THE
WORST HAS COME
TO PASS.



MY STARKTECH IS BEING
INTEGRATED INTO THE ENTIRE
INTELLIGENCE, MILITARY
AND LAW ENFORCEMENT
COMMUNITIES. THAT'S
A GOOD THING...

...UNLESS
SOMEONE
FIGURES OUT HOW
TO COMPROMISE IT.
THAT SHOULDN'T BE
POSSIBLE, BUT IF IT
HAPPENS, OUR ABILITY
TO RESPOND
TO THREATS IS
CRIPPLED.

I NEED
SOMEONE TO
STRIKE BACK IF I
CAN'T. SOMEONE
CAPABLE. STRONG.
EXPERIENCED. I
NEED YOU,
JIM.



AFTER YOUR...ACCIDENT, I DIDN'T
USE STARKTECH IN YOUR NEW ARMOR.
IT'S A COMBINATION OF BLEEDING
EDGE CYBERWARE...

...AND
DISCONTINUED
EQUIPMENT FROM WHEN
OBADIAH STANE RAN MY
COMPANY. THE SAME
IS TRUE FOR THIS
SATELLITE.

YOU'RE
COMPLETELY
INDEPENDENT FROM
ALL OUTSIDE SYSTEMS.
YOU CAN INTERACT
WITH THE GRID, BUT
YOU'RE INSULATED
FROM IT.

I'M ASKING
YOU TO CARRY ON
THE FIGHT, RHODEY. IRON



ONE LAST THING. RECENTLY I'VE BECOME AWARE OF...A POSSIBLE THREAT. I'M TAKING STEPS TO DEAL WITH IT, BUT THERE'S A CHANCE IT'S THE REASON YOU'RE SEEING THIS.

IF YOU CAN ACCESS THIS MESSAGE, I KNOW YOU'RE REALLY JIM RHODES. BUT THAT'S ALL I KNOW. I SAY AGAIN, RHODEY--DON'T TRUST ANYONE.

ANYONE.



HE'S TALKING ABOUT SKRULLS. ALIEN SHAPE-CHANGERS.

YOU'RE TALKING AS IF YOU THINK I--

SOMEHOW THEY KNEW I WAS OUT THERE. I ALMOST DIDN'T MAKE IT.

LAST I HEARD, SUZI ENDO WAS ARRESTED FOR OPERATING AS CYBERMANCER WITHOUT PROPER SUPERHUMAN REGISTRATION. SEEMS ODD TONY WOULD TRUST YOU...OR VICE VERSA.



THAT WAS A MISUNDERSTANDING! I DIDN'T THINK THE REGISTRATION ACT APPLIED TO ME--I'M A CITIZEN OF HONG KONG.

I WAS JUST TRYING TO PICK UP THE SLACK WHILE YOUR COUNTRY'S HEROES WERE BUSY FIGHTING EACH OTHER LIKE CHILDREN!

TONY APOLOGIZED TO ME. DISMISSED THE AGENTS WHO'D ATTACKED ME. I'VE BEEN HEADING UP R&D FOR HIS COMPANY'S ASIAN BRANCH FOR MONTHS!



THE SKRULLS KNEW EXACTLY WHERE TO FIND ME.

MAYBE THEY PICKED YOU UP ON THEIR RADAR.

MY ARMOR'S RADAR-SHIELDED.

FROM ALIEN TECH? NOW, UNLESS YOU WANT A DEMONSTRATION OF MY 'IMPROPERLY REGISTERED' POWERS.

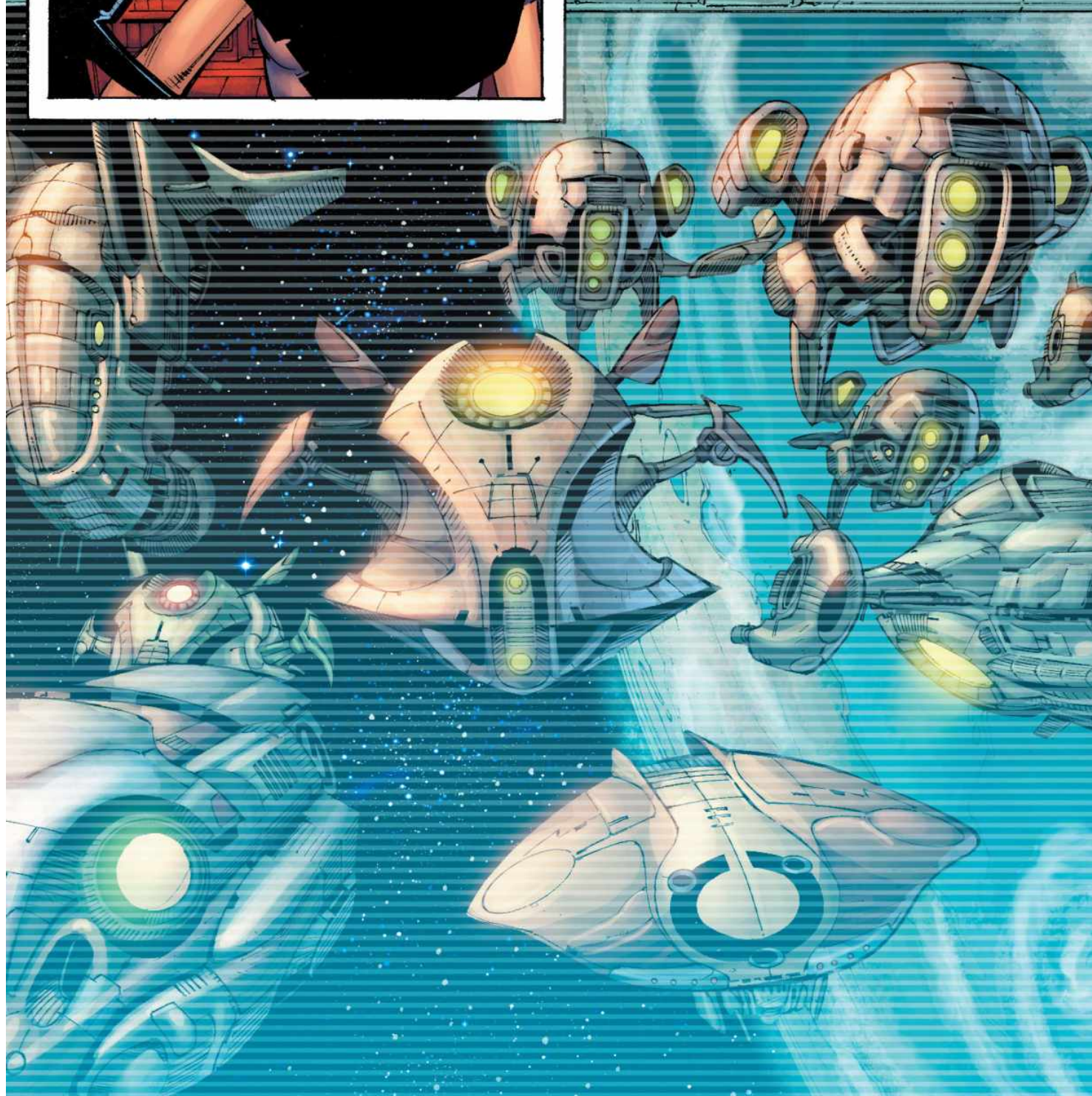


AH--RHODEY,
I'VE JUST
THOUGHT OF A VERY
GOOD REASON
WHY YOU SHOULD
TRUST ME.

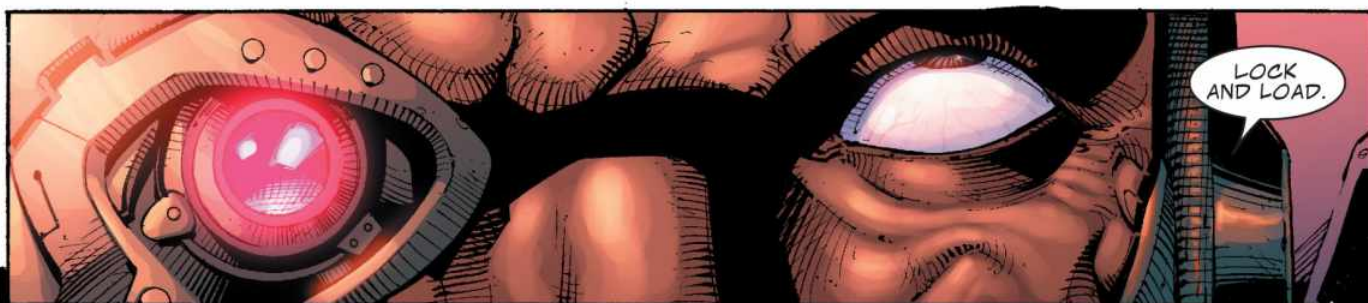
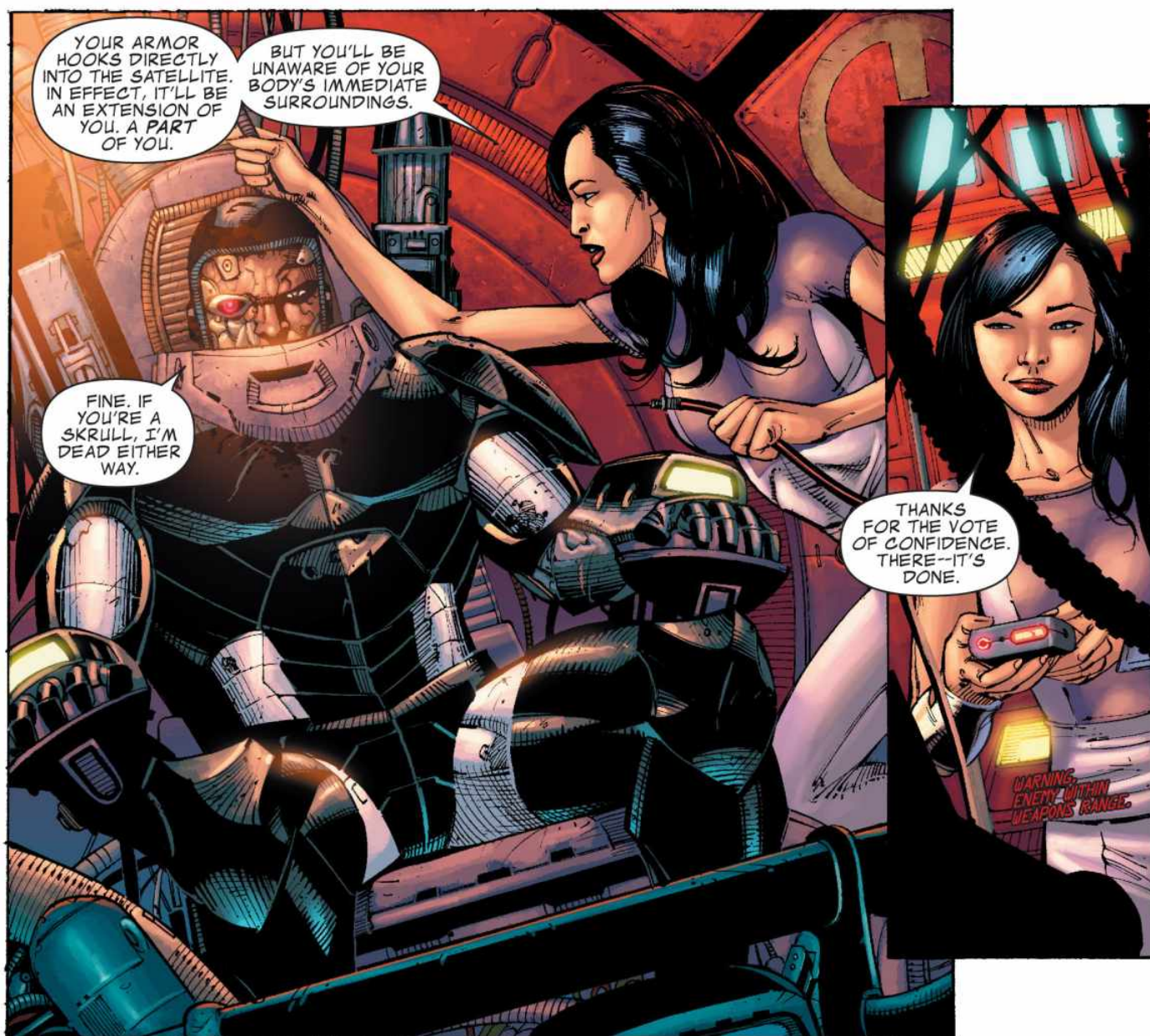
I'M
LISTENING.



THAT.



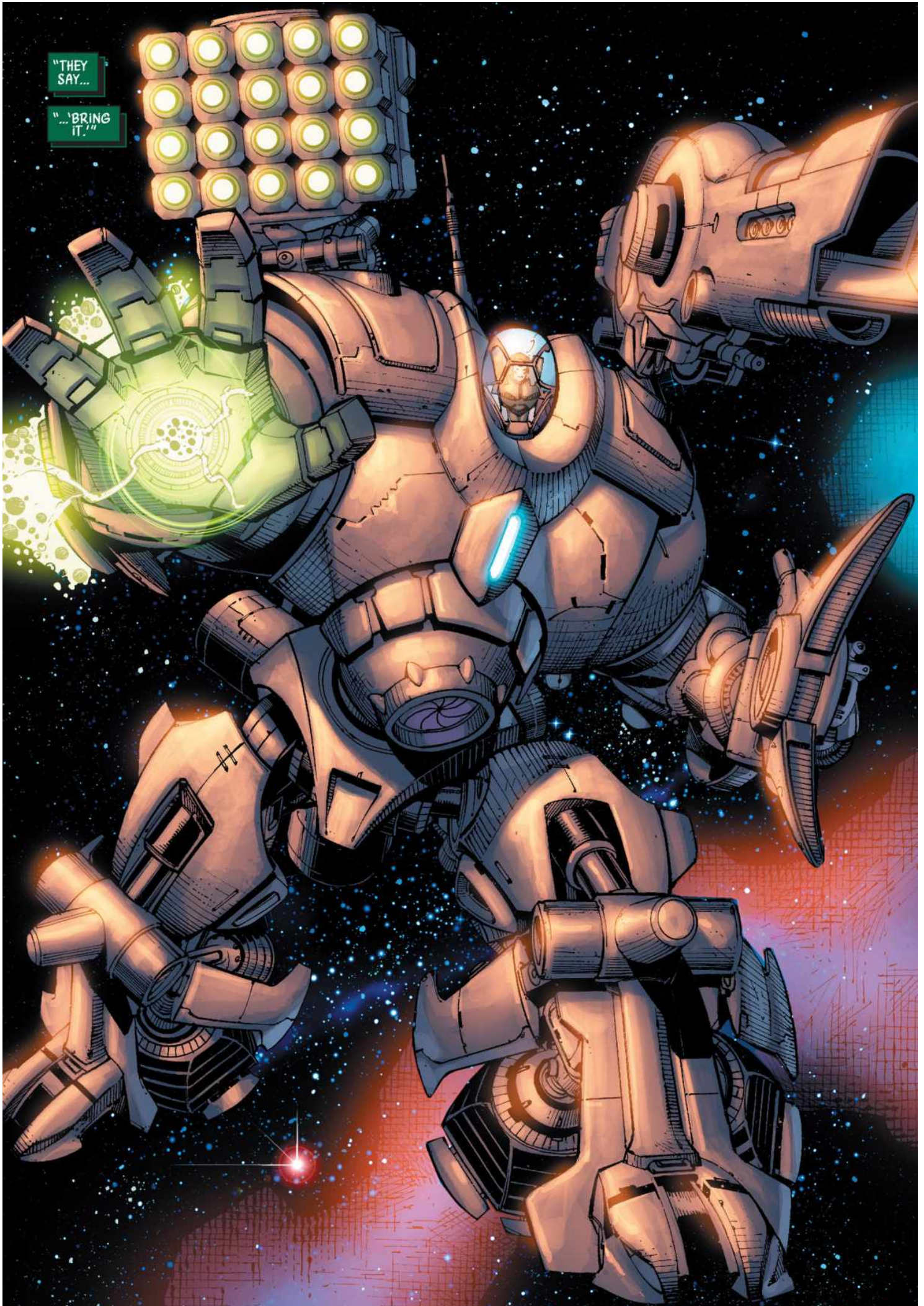






"THEY
SAY..."

"...BRING
IT."



NEXT: IT'S DRAUGHT!